

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 10511 021300Z

41

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 EUR-25 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

SCCT-02 USSS-00 SY-04 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 IO-14 EB-11 SCS-03 SCA-01 DRC-01 /154 W

----- 001806

O 021240Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM NIACT IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0013

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 10511

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS CASC ET SU

SUBJECT: TENNECO FOUR

Q. ACTION ADDRESSEES PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TO CANADIAN
AMBASSADORS:

2. " TENNECO REPS HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE RELEASE
PROCEDURES GOING WELL FOLLOWING TRANSMITTAL OF CODE WORD
'MOUNT EVEREST'. PLEASE DO NOT BE DISCOURAGED BY TEXT
OF BRITISH RELAYED MESSAGE WHICH INDICATED PRECONDITION
CONCERNING RELEASE OF 74 ELF PRISONERS. TENNECO REPS
FEEL IT IS ERROR IN TRANSLATION. FYI, FULL TEXT OF
BRITISH RELAYED MESSAGE IS REPEATED BELOW:

3. "WHILE ATTEMPTING (UNSUCCESSFULLY) TO CONTACT THE
PRIME MINISTER THIS MORNING, WE WERE CONTACTED BY THE
REP OF THE ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT REVOLUTIONARY
COUNCIL WHO GAVE US THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO SEND.
PLEASE PASS TO AMERICAN EMBASSY. QTE PLEASE INFORM
REPS OF TENNECO, MESSRS. WILSON AND BURGHER, THAT THE
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LIBERATION FRONT REGRET THE DELAY IN HANDING OVER THE

PRISONERS. THEIR RELEASE HAS NOW BEEN MADE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

1 THAT THE COMPANY COMPLIES WITH THE CONDITIONS IMPOSED BY THE ELF REGARDING ERITREAN SOVEREIGNTY IN THE RESPECT OF ALL AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED BY TENNECO WITH ETHIOPIA.

2. RESPECT THE MEDIATION BY IRAQ ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR THE RELEASE OF THE UN EXPERT DETAINED WITH THE PARTY.

3. RESPECT BY THE ELF OF THE HUMAN ASPECT OF THE QUESTION OF THE PRISONERS.

4. RELEASE OF 74 OF THE POLITICAL PRISONERS, A LIST OF WHOSE NAMES WAS PRESENTED BY THE FRONT AS A CONDITION TO TENNECO.

THE CODE WORD FOR THE RELEASE OF THE PRISONERS IS MOUNT EVEREST. THE ELF WISH THE ABOVE TO BE COMMUNICATED TO THE BBC AND THE FRENCH NEWS AGENCY IN BEIRUT. UNQTE

4. "THE ABOVE MESSAGE WAS PRESENTED AS A LETTER, IN ARABIC, BY SALEH AHMED IYAI, HEAD OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS OFFICE OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, ELF, WHO ALSO ASKED US TO SAY THAT THE PRISONERS WERE BEING RELEASED ON 1 SEPT. BECAUSE THIS IS THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE REVOLUTION.

5. "THE TRANSLATION HAS NOT BEEN DONE BY AN OFFICIAL TRANSLATOR AND THEREFORE MAY BE SLIGHTLY INEXACT. THE ORIGINAL LETTER WILL BE SENT IN THE NEXT BAG FOR TRANSMISSION TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY BEIRUT."
GODLEY

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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TAGS: PINS, CASC, LE, ET, SU
To: ADDIS ABABA CAIRO
Type: TE
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